

Lesson to Be Learned.

According to the United States census, the population in California cities of over one hundred thousand people has increased, in the decade from 1900 to 1910, from 30 to 37.3 per cent. The population in districts outside of cities of ten thousand and over has decreased from 56.9 per cent, in 1900, to 46.7 per cent, in 1910. Most of this decrease of the percentage of population of agricultural districts has gone to the big cities of over one hundred thousand.

This clearly shows the prevailing tendency. It also shows the grave necessity for building cities that are fit places for the permanent housing of the larger part of the population.

For Deaf and Dumb in India.

Fourteen years ago a school was opened in Palamcottah, South India, for deaf and dumb children, the only missionary effort among the 200,000 deaf of India. About 300 children of every race and creed, from all parts of India, and sent by every missionary society, have passed through the school, and over a hundred are studying there now. The Hindus are beginning to realize the good of educating the deaf, and last year asked government help to enable them to open a school in Madras. Last January a small school was opened in Madras; already it is full with 15 children.—Missionary Review.

Unremitting Toil.

"Think you can learn a part if I give it to you?" inquired the Broadway manager of the chorus girl. "In the second act you say, 'Hurrah, boys! Here comes the captain! Now I want you to cut out the bright lights and late cuts for a while and get right down to hard study.'—Puck.

Dark Rooms in Brooklyn.

The number of dark rooms in Brooklyn, N. Y., has been reduced from 192,572 in 1900 to 8,018 on March 1, 1914. The number of windowless rooms has been reduced from 10,544 in 1900 to 501 on April 1, 1914.

Best Not to Copy Too Closely.

"After the general change of the political situation in the middle ages that took away the city-planning activities from the princes, and either annihilated them or put them in the hands of the citizens, those citizens in very many cases turned out to be very ordinary, short-sighted, and uneducated bourgeois." Therefore, continues Dr. Werner Hegemann, German expert, it behooves city planners of today not to take too seriously the work of city planners of yesterday. Beauty is all very well, but there are other things to be considered.

A Wide Range.

A young woman with an aspiration to shine in the chorus applied to Andreas Dippel, who has managed opera singers all his life, for a position in his company. "To sing in a chorus of mine," said Mr. Dippel, "you must have a good voice." "Oh, but I have one," replied the girl. Mr. Dippel led her to the piano and asked her to demonstrate her vocal powers. Sitting at the instrument and then swinging around, she smiled sweetly and asked: "Shall I sing 'The Chairs in the Parlor All Miss You,' or something light?"

American Surgeons in the War.

The satisfactory work done at American hospitals in two German cities has induced the German government to ask for more American surgeons of whose skill their German fellow surgeons "speak in terms of the highest appreciation." That is praise from a high source, and it is matched by the recognition given the work of American surgeons in French hospitals.

Refugees Prove Relatives.

Belgian refugees, a boy and girl, were adopted by a man and his wife of Abercynon, Wales. The children now prove to be those of the wife's dead sister, who went to Belgium as a governess some years ago. A letter which was found on the little girl led to the discovery.

The women's clubs of Birmingham Ala., have been the means of forming junior civic leagues in every school grade in the busy city.

The women, feeling that the children were growing up without knowledge of city needs, decided to educate for good citizenship.

First, they cleaned up the school yards, then the parks and the streets. Today every young citizen who joins a league in his or her school grade signs this pledge:

"I will not injure any tree, shrub or lawn.

"I promise not to spit upon the floor in a street car, schoolhouse or any public building, or upon the sidewalk.

"I pledge myself not to deface any fence or public building.

"I will not scatter paper or throw rubbish in public places.

"I will not use profane language at any time.

"I will always protect birds.

"I will protect the property of others as I would my own.

"I will promise to be a true and loyal citizen."

In looking over an old work of Peter Henderson, written about forty years ago, we find this beautiful "alarm" on New York city: "In New York and its suburbs the taste is much lower than it is in either Boston or Philadelphia. In those places, no doubt their excellent horticultural societies have done much to refine the tastes of the people, and it is to be regretted that neither New York nor its adjacent cities, with probably over two million people, have a single horticultural or floricultural society." At the present day, this distinction is none the less clear, and where these societies best flourish the highest appreciation of plant life is shown. There are better gardens, better gardeners, more varied plant life and more rare and costly plants in Pasadena than in any other city on the Pacific coast; also less crime and a higher standard of citizenship.—Los Angeles Times.

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